

## Welcome to ISCB41 in Kraków !

Four decades after the first meeting in Brussels, the annual conferences of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB) are recognized as the leading meetings for scientists and researchers from across the world who share the common interest in developing and applying new statistical methods in clinical, health and biomedical sciences.

In 2020, the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the ISCB will take place in Kraków, Poland, a city of a thousand-year-long history. The former capital of Poland situated at the foot of the Royal Castle, Kraków was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1978. The charming medieval city squares and beautiful renaissance and baroque buildings create an exceptional atmosphere of the old times.

The conference will be hosted by the 656-year-old Jagiellonian University, whose notable alumni include Nicolaus Copernicus. The conference venue – Auditorium Maximum – is located within a 10-minute walk from the Kraków's Old Town and its perfectly preserved cultural heritage.

The traditional five-day format of ISCB conferences and an exciting scientific programme will provide excellent opportunities to keep up with recent developments in advanced statistical methodology, and for interactions and the exchange of ideas, knowledge and experience, both during the scientific sessions and in informal discussions.

The scientific programme will cover the latest developments in a wide range of fields relevant for clinical biostatistics including Bayesian statistics, big data, survival analysis, causal inference, non-inferiority trials, individualized risk prediction, and machine learning, as well as the current debates regarding the concept of statistical significance, the need to reconcile randomized clinical trials with population-based real-world evidence, and the impact of unmeasured confounding. The plenary talks by eminent researchers will include ISCB President's Invited Speaker Miguel Hernan and the two Keynote Speakers Frank Harrell Jr. and Trevor Hastie.

Details regarding the scientific topics of the conference, plenary lectures, invited sessions, conference courses and mini-symposia are given overleaf, as well as on the conference website.

Apart from a stimulating scientific programme, the social programme and the early career biostatisticians' day will provide unique networking opportunities.

Hoping the conference will be a fruitful and enjoyable experience we cordially invite you to Kraków and to ISCB41,

## Important Dates

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 15 January 2020  | Call for <b>ABSTRACTS</b> submission and Conference Awards applications, Registration opens |
| 29 February 2020 | Deadline for Abstracts submission and Conference Awards applications                        |
| 15 April 2020    | Notification of Abstract acceptance   |
| 5 May 2020       | Early bird Registration deadline  |
| 10 August 2020   | On-line Registration deadline   |

## Local Organizing Committee

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Krystyna Szafraniec, Chair</b> | Andrzej Pająk          |
| Małgorzata Ćwiklińska-Jurkowska   | Maciej Polak           |
| Agnieszka Doryńska                | Kinga Sałapa           |
| Magdalena Kozela                  | Michał Skrzypek        |
| Aleksander Owczarek               | Renata Wolfshaut-Wolak |

## Scientific Programme Committee

- Michał Abrahamowicz**, Montreal, Canada, **Chair**  
**John Carlin**, Melbourne, Australia  
**Yingying Fan**, USC Los Angeles, US  
**Krista Fischer**, Tartu, Estonia  
**Jessica Franklin**, Harvard, US  
**Laurence Freedman**, Jerusalem, Israel  
**Mitchell H. Gail**, NIH/NCI, US  
**Andrzej Galecki**, Michigan, US  
**Dani Gamerman**, UFMG, Belo Horizonte, Brazil  
**Lisa Hampson**, Novartis, Basel, Switzerland  
**Ruth Keogh**, London, UK  
**Maia Lesosky**, Cape Town, South Africa  
**Aleksander Owczarek**, Katowice, Poland  
**Maja Pohar Perme**, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
**Sven Ove Samuelsen**, Oslo, Norway  
**Willi Sauerbrei**, Freiburg, Germany  
**Krystyna Szafraniec**, Kraków, Poland (LOC Chair)  
**Toshiro Tango**, Tokyo, Japan  
**Eric Tchetgen Tchetgen**, Philadelphia, US  
**A.H. Zwinderman**, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

## Venue

Auditorium Maximum  
of the Jagiellonian University  
33, Krupnicza Street, 31-123 Kraków

## Contacts

office@iscb2020.info



International Society  
for Clinical Biostatistics

# 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference

23 – 27 August 2020, Kraków, Poland

## Second Announcement



Co-Organized by  
**Jagiellonian University**



**Michał Abrahamowicz**  
Chair  
Scientific Programme Committee

**Krystyna Szafraniec**  
Chair  
Local Organizing Committee

[www.iscb2020.info](http://www.iscb2020.info)



## Conference Topics

- Bayesian Statistics
- Big data / Biomarkers
- Causal Inference
- Clinical Trials
- Data Science
- Diagnosis & Prognosis
- Dynamic Prediction
- Efficient Designs / EHR
- Epidemiology
- Functional data
- Individualized Risk Prediction
- Infectious & Chronic Diseases
- Longitudinal data
- Machine Learning
- Measurement Errors
- Mediation & Interaction
- Meta-analysis
- Missing data
- Model Building & Variable Selection
- Multi-state Models
- Omics & Genetics
- Penalized Estimation
- Personalized Medicine
- Pharmacoepidemiology
- Registry data
- Reproducible Research
- Simulations
- Statistical Software
- Survival Analysis

## Mini-symposia

- **Advanced statistical methods for the analysis of high-dimensional medical data** (Małgorzata Bogdan, Poland)
- **Statistical methods in pharmacoepidemiology and pharmacoconomics** (Robert Platt, Canada)
- **Statistics in Data Science** (Rebecca Fuhrer, Canada & Rodolphe Thiébaud, France)
- **STRATOS initiative - more on guidance for analysis of observational studies** (Georg Heinze, Austria & Willi Sauerbrei, Germany)
- **Systematic reviews and metaanalyses - opportunities and challenges** (Małgorzata Bała, Poland)

## Call for Abstracts

Contributions for scientific parallel sessions, both Oral and Poster, in any area of biostatistics, epidemiology and related fields are welcome to be submitted. Abstract submissions are encouraged particularly with relevance to the Conference Topics. The abstract should be submitted via the registration and abstract submission system on the conference website. The submitting form and detailed information about the procedure can be found at [www.iscb2020.info](http://www.iscb2020.info) starting from January 2020.

Deadline for abstract submission is February 29, 2020.

## Conference Awards & Grants

The ISCB is pleased to support and promote the continued development of clinical biostatistics by granting conference awards to exceptional research. Prizes are awarded to students (StA) and scientists from the countries underdeveloped in clinical biostatistics (CASC) in recognition of their excellence in research and communication. In addition, a limited number of grants providing financial support to participate in the ISCB41 Conference are available, on the competitive basis, for scientists and students from developing countries. Guidelines for the awards and the application forms are available on the conference website. The deadline for conference awards applications is February 29, 2020.

## Pre-Conference Courses

- **Statistical Modeling**  
Frank Harrell Jr., Vanderbilt, US
- **Absolute Risk Methods and Applications**  
Mitchell H. Gail and Ruth Pfeiffer, NIH/NCI, US
- **Measurement Errors**  
Pamela Shaw, U Penn, US and Ruth Keogh, LSHTM, UK
- **Analysis of high-dimensional data**  
Jörg Rahnenführer and Michel Lang, TU Dortmund, Germany

## Invited & Plenary Talks

ISCB President's Invited Speaker Lecture

**Learning what works: Causal inference from observational data**

**Miguel Hernan** (Harvard University, US)

Keynote Session

**Frank Harrell Jr.** (Vanderbilt, US) & **Trevor Hastie** (Stanford, US)  
**Machine Learning vs. Statistical Modeling**

## Invited Sessions

- Bayesian modeling of chronic & infectious diseases: Reverend Bayes going anti-viral
- Biostatistical inference in practice: moving beyond false dichotomies
- Can Cox model survive in the 21st survival analysis?
- Can Ying dance with Yang? Combining evidence from RCT's and Pharmaco-epidemiology population-based studies of drug effects
- Causal Inference vs. Unmeasured Confounding: Let's face the Dragon
- Efficient Designs & cutting-edge analyses
- Individualized Risk Prediction & Omics
- New developments in Longitudinal data analysis
- New Frontiers: Big Data & Functional Data Analysis
- Progress in providing analytic guidance for observational studies: the STRATOS initiative
- Tackling the challenges of imperfections in longitudinal and survival data: missingness, measurement error and irregular sampling
- When non-inferiority trials are superior?